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Wycombe 0, B'mouth 0

As minnows go, of course, Wycombe Wanderers are pretty big fish: they have won the Isthmian League three times in the last four seasons and have not been beaten at home in over two years. They had the Third Division side, Bournemouth, well and truly hooked throughout this FA Cup second-round tie, but then allowed them to wriggle back to the coast for a replay on Wednesday night. Bournemouth surely won't be so limp or spineless or so downright lucky then. And both teams will be playing for a profitable home match with Middlesbrough in the third round.

Certainly in the replay the League side cannot again expect Charlton, their goalkeeper, to come up with such a one-man holding action as he did so gloriously on Saturday. His generally festive performance was decorated by three truly memorable saves: a brave, beautifully timed snatch into half a dozen rampaging boots on the 18-yard line, a trampolining somersault to turn over a real snorter of a long drive and, best of all, a quicksilver reaction parry in a gloved sort of whirr from Kennedy's thunderous shot towards the end. Word has got about that there is a dearth of goalkeepers around these days; the big-time scouts should go to Bournemouth for, by all accounts, this nipper with the old familiar name has been turning in a succession of blinders of late.

But for all Charlton's athleticism, Wycombe have to blame their finishing for not settling the whole thing. The thin Delaney, a former Wanderers' centre-half, played a stout game on his old patch but too often misdirected Bournemouth's offside ploys. So the pattern of a stirring, ever fair game, soon settled and never drifted away from one of snatched and squandered home chances: the bow-legged veteran Horseman who has been popping them in for many Isthmian League seasons now was perhaps the most guilty—but Phillips, who with the unconsidered Reardon, played well in defence, tossed away the game's best chance just before half time when, on the very goal line, the ball hit the parting of his hair instead of his forehead and it lobbed gently and wastefully over the bar. Charlton, for once, was flat-footed and lost on that occasion. Anyway, one reckons it will be a different story on Wednesday night.

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BOURNEMOUTH MANAGER
Trevor Hartley admitted he was "a bit relieved" to leave Wycombe Wanderers' sloping pitch still in the Cup.

Wycombe, the Isthmian League amateurs, were disappointed because they should have got into the third round at the first attempt.

They did not have the finishing power to match their enthusiasm and considerable ability, and fluffed two dream chances in the couple of minutes before half time.

Overlapping right back Paul Birdseye sent in a powerful shot just a trifle too high and Bournemouth's busy goalkeeper, Kevin Charlton, was able to knock it over the bar.

Then Wycombe's rangy right winger, Steve Perrin, headed over an open goal.

Pulsating

Wanderers still had more of the play in this sporting tie. Schoolmaster Perrin showed a clean pair of heels to the Football League team and put in a pulsating run down the left flank which was only checked by last-ditch defensive work from Clive Payne and Keith Miller, who had to concede a corner.

Bournemouth, thanks to the inspiration of 20-year-old goalkeeper Charlton improved in the end, and almost poached the third-round ticket in the last couple of minutes.

Fortunately Soccer justice—Wycombe goalkeeper John Maskell brought off a double save from Howard Goddard and Les Parodi.

Wycombe winger Tony Horseman complained afterwards that he should have had a second-half penalty when he was tripped.

Wycombe should not restart at Bournemouth on Wednesday night lamenting the penalty that got away. "We can still win down there," was the confident last word from Wanderers manager Brian Lee.

WYCOMBE.—Maskell; Birdseye, Hand, Mead, Phillips, Reardon, Perrin, Kennedy, Scarle, Holifield, Horseman. Sub: Bullock.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Charlton; Payne, Miller, Howard, Delaney, Horse, Wingate, Welsh, Goddard, Greenhalgh, Parodi. Sub: Merrick.

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KEEPER Charlton stood between Wycombe and a deserved win.

Wycombe manager Brian Lee said: "He was near faultless, and his reflexes were lightning."

But Lee claimed Wycombe should have had a penalty when Horseman was brought down.

Bournemouth were lucky to survive in a five minute spell before half-time when Charlton leaped to palm away a fierce drive from Birdseye and Perrin's header skimmed the bar. Perrin later forced Charlton to a brilliant save.

Scarle, who had Wycombe's best chances was made to look slow by Delaney, a former Wycombe player.

Wycombe finished the stronger side, but Maskell saved them with late stops from Wingate and Parodi.